

**DEAR PARISHIONERS,
THIS NEWSLETTER IS MY WAY OF KEEPING IN TOUCH WITH YOU AND TO
UPDATE AND SHARE NEWS ACROSS THE ARCHDIOCESE.**

HOLY THURSDAY - Washing of the feet; Order of Priesthood; The New Commandment of love: Love one another; Institution of the Eucharist. During this time of social distancing during the Corona Virus pandemic, it will be sad that we will not be able to participate in person in the celebration of Holy Thursday. The live streaming of the liturgy will not involve the traditional washing of the feet - so much a part of this celebration.



On Holy Thursday, we celebrate three anniversaries:

1. the anniversary of the first Holy Mass,
2. the anniversary of the institution of ministerial priesthood to perpetuate the Holy Mass, convey God's forgiveness to all and to preach the Good News of salvation,
3. the anniversary of Jesus' promulgation of his new commandment of love: *"Love one another as I have loved you"* (John 13:34).

Today we remember how Jesus transformed the Jewish Passover into the New Testament Passover. The Jewish Passover was, in fact, a joint celebration of two ancient thanksgiving celebrations. The descendants of Abel, who were shepherds, used to lead their sheep from winter pastures to summer pastures after the sacrificial offering of a lamb to God. They called this celebration the "Passover." The descendants of Cain, who were farmers, held a harvest festival called the Massoth in which they offered unleavened bread to God as an act of thanksgiving. The Passover feast of the Israelites (Exodus 12:26-37) was a harmonious combination of these two ancient feasts of thanksgiving, commanded by the Lord God and celebrated yearly by all Israelites, to thank God for His miraculous liberation of their ancestors from Egyptian slavery, their exodus from Egypt, and their final arrival into the Promised Land.

On Holy Thursday we commemorate the gift of the Eucharist, given to us at the Last Supper. We pass over from sin and death to mercy, communion and the fullness of life, through Jesus' total gift of himself. On this day when we especially celebrate the Lord's gift to us of His Body and Blood, we should realize even more deeply that to know personally our Eucharistic Jesus means that no fear will rule our lives. When we receive the Body and Blood of Jesus, we receive God, who is Love. We receive perfect Love, which "casts out all fear" (1 Jn 4:18).



The Eucharist is the fulfillment of the Passover, when the Lord commanded His people to leave the slavery of fear. After the first Eucharist, Jesus fearlessly died on the cross. The Eucharist is where the fearful become fearless by the transforming love of the Lord. **KNOW JESUS. NO FEAR.**





Holy Thursday – Evening Mass of the Lord’s Supper

Exodus 12:1-8, 11-14/Psalm 116:12-13, 15-16bc, 17-18/1 Corinthians 11:23-26/John 13:1-15

Good Friday of the Lord's Passion

Isaiah 52:13--53:12/Psalms 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-16, 17, 25/Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9/John 18:1--19:42

Holy Saturday

Gen 1, 1-2,2; Gen 22, 1-18; Ex 14, 15-15,1; Is 54, 5-14; Is 55, 1-11; Baruch 3, 9-15. 32-4,4; Ezek 36, 16-28; Rom 6, 3-11; Mt 28, 1-10

Easter Sunday - The Resurrection of the Lord

Acts 10:34A, 37-43/Psalms 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23/Colossians 3:1-4 or/1Corinthians 5:6B-8/John 20:1-9

A vertical poster with a purple background. At the top is a photograph of three crosses on a hill against a sunset sky. Below the photo, the text reads: "Holy Week Masses live streamed", "ALL Holy Week Masses will be live streamed from the crypt at St Christopher's Cathedral.", "The program is:", "Sunday April 5 at 11am - Passion (Palm) Sunday", "Tuesday April 7 at 11am - Chrism Mass", "Easter Triduum", "Holy Thursday April 9 at 7pm – Evening Mass", "Good Friday April 10: 10am – Way of the Cross 3pm – Celebration of the Lord's Passion", "Holy Saturday April 11 at 7pm – Easter Vigil", "Easter Sunday April 12 at 11am – Easter Mass", and "www.catholicvoice.org.au/mass-online" at the bottom.

Holy Week Masses live streamed

ALL Holy Week Masses will be live streamed from the crypt at St Christopher's Cathedral.

The program is:

Sunday April 5 at 11am - Passion (Palm) Sunday

Tuesday April 7 at 11am - Chrism Mass

Easter Triduum

Holy Thursday April 9 at 7pm – Evening Mass

Good Friday April 10: 10am – Way of the Cross 3pm – Celebration of the Lord's Passion

Holy Saturday April 11 at 7pm – Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday April 12 at 11am – Easter Mass

www.catholicvoice.org.au/mass-online

CHANNEL 7

The Lord’s Passion at **3pm on Good Friday** and **Easter Sunday Mass from 10.30am** live across the country on Channel 7, Prime 7 in regional areas, and live-streamed on 7plus.

EASTER TIME

The fifty days from the Sunday of the Resurrection to Pentecost Sunday are celebrated in joy and exultation as one feast day, indeed as one ‘great Sunday’. These are the days above all others in which the *Alleluia* is sung. The Sundays of this time of year are considered to be Sundays of Easter..... *GNLYC 22-24*

THE DIVINE MERCY OF JESUS

3 o’clock prayer - the hour of great mercy

Jesus said: *Call upon My mercy on behalf of sinners; I desire their salvation. When you say this prayer, with a contrite heart and with faith on behalf of some sinner, I will give that person the grace of conversion.*

Let us pray: ***O Blood and Water which gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a Fount of Mercy for us, I trust in you. Jesus, I trust in You***

Good Friday begins the 9 day Novena of the Divine Mercy leading up to next Sunday, the Feast of the Divine Mercy.

THE SICK

As we journey with our Lord through this tough time let us remember in our prayers our family, parishioners and all those who are sick. May the healing power of God touch and give them strength and heal them.

RECENTLY DECEASED

We pray for the recently deceased in our parish community. Please remember in your prayers the repose of the soul of Lyn Matthews’ mother and Mary Roberson. *May all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen*

DAILY ONLINE MASSES RESOURCES

<https://www.catholicvoice.org.au/mass-online/>

<https://mass-online.org/daily-holy-mass-live-online>

<https://melbournecatholic.org.au/>

www.wordonfire.org/daily-mass

<https://www.catholic.org.au/prayathome>

I will send further reflections in the coming days

I wish you all a very blessed, a prayerful and safe Holy Week.

Fr. Pale